

An ACT to increase the jurisdiction of the corporation of the city of Annapolis. Passed December 30.

WHEREAS doubts exist, with respect to the powers of the corporation of the city of Annapolis in passing laws to restrain the mischiefs arising from vagrants, loose and disorderly persons, free negroes, and persons having no visible means of subsistence or support; and the great increase of such persons, to the prejudice of the morals and safety of the city of Annapolis is apparent, Preamble.

II. *Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the mayor, recorder, aldermen and common council, of the city of Annapolis, be and they are hereby authorised and empowered to pass, make and ordain, all laws necessary to take up, fine, imprison or punish, any and all vagrants; loose and disorderly persons, free negroes, and persons having no visible means of subsistence or support, that may be found within the limits or jurisdiction of the said city, provided that they shall not in any case pass, make or ordain, any law to fine for any one offence a sum exceeding twenty dollars, or imprisonment exceeding thirty days, or punishment beyond fifteen lashes. Mayor, &c. to pass laws, &c.

III. *And be it enacted,* That if any free negro or mulatto, or other free person, be committed to gaol in virtue of this act, and shall not, at the expiration of the time for which he is committed, pay to the sheriff the amount of his fine and prison fees, it shall and may be lawful for the sheriff, with consent of the mayor in writing, to sell such negro or mulatto, or other free person, as a servant, for any time not exceeding four months, such time to be expressed in writing by the mayor in giving his consent as aforesaid. Free negroes, &c. may be sold, &c.

A Supplement to an act, entitled, An act to remove the market-house at the Head of Elk, and establish the same, and for the advancement and regulation of said town. Passed December 30.

BE it enacted, *by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That the commissioners of the town of Elkton, in Cæcil county, shall have power to levy annually on the inhabitants of said town, in lieu of two shillings and sixpence authorised by the act to which this is a supplement, a sum not exceeding one dollar for every hundred pounds worth of assessable property in said town; and the said commissioners shall have power to appoint a person to collect said tax, who shall have the same power therefor as the collector of the county in the collection of the county tax; and said money shall be applied, at the discretion of the commissioners, to the general benefit of said town. Commissioners to levy money, &c.

II. *And,* whereas by the act to which this is a supplement the inhabitants of said town are empowered to elect annually, on Easter Monday in each year, or as soon thereafter as convenient, seven commissioners for said town, *And be it enacted,* That should the inhabitants of said town at any time neglect to make an election, in manner and time required by said act, the power of appointing such commissioners shall not thereupon cease, but the rights and power of the inhabitants of said town in that respect shall continue in the same manner as though such appointments had been duly made, and no neglect of said inhabitants heretofore in respect to appointing such commissioners shall be held to impair the rights and powers of the inhabitants of said town, but the laws relating to the regulations and police of said town shall thereafter be as full and perfect as if no neglect had ever taken place in respect to the appointment of such commissioners. Power not to cease, &c.